

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 01949 231511Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 IO-13
/078 W

-----029513 240549Z /12

R 231328Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2553
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/-
TAGS: MOPS RH BC
SUBJ: THREE BATSWANA KILLED INSIDE RHODESIA

1. GOB ANNOUNCED JUNE 21 THAT THREE BATSWANA FROM ZWENSHAMBE VILLAGE IN NORTHEAST DISTRICT WERE KILLED BY RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCES JUNE 16. DAILY NEWS ARTICLE ON INCIDENT STATES THAT THREE BATSWANA WERE COLLECTING FIREWOOD ON RHODESIAN SIDE OF BORDER. ARTICLE ALLEGES THAT KILLING AGAIN DEMONSTRATES "CALLOUSNESS" OF RHODESIAN FORCES AND ADVISES BATSWANA TO KEEP WELL AWAY FROM RHODESIA BORDER.

2. GOB ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY TIBONE TOLD EMBOFF THAT RHODESIAN SIDE CLAIMS BATSWANA WERE ENGAGED IN CATTLE RUSTLING WHEN ATTACKED BY SECURITY FORCES. HE SAID GOB'S INFORMATION FROM THEIR VILLAGE IS THAT THE MEN WERE COLLECTING FIREWOOD, BUT GOB ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THEY SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ON RHODESIAN SIDE OF BORDER. ACCORDING TO TIBONE, RHODESIA/BOTSWANA BORDER IS FENCED AT AREA WHERE CROSSING OCCURRED, ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT FENCED FURTHER SOUTH WHERE ONLY SHASHE RIVER DIVIDES THE

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TWO COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, TIBONE TOLD US GOB IS CONSTRUCTING VETERINARY FENCE ALONG SHASHE RIVER BOUNDARY SO THAT ENTIRE BORDER WILL BE FENCED.

3. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT IS ANOTHER INDICATION THAT, DESPITE RHODESIAN PROCLAMATION OF "NO-GO" ZONE, PEOPLE ON BOTH SIDES OF BORDER CONTINUE TO CROSS BOUNDARY AS

THEY TRADITIONALLY HAVE DONE. AS LONG AS SUCH CONTACTS
CONTINUE, BATSWANA ARE LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO BECOME
CASUALTIES OF RHODESIAN WAR.
NORLAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BORDER INCIDENTS, DEATHS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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